GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:401
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Income of Farmers
Birla Shri Om;Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao;Gupta Shri Sudheer;Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Radhakrishnan Shri T.;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar;Singh Shri Abhishek

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the roadmap outlined by the NITI Aayog for reforms in agriculture sector and doubling farmers income by 2022 and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto including the steps taken to implement the reforms and double the income of farmers by 2022;

(b) whether the States are extremely slow on agricultural reforms as a result of which there is distress among farmers and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard to prevent spread of farmer unrest across the country;

(c) whether the NITI Aayog has urged the Government to link part of the financial grant given to States under the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana for agricultural reforms implemented by the States and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the aforesaid arrangement will compel the States to bring significant changes in the agriculture marketing and other pending reforms in the agriculture sector and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Union Government thereto; and

(e) whether the Government has identified a large number of disguised unemployed farmers in the country and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve the employment opportunities and reduce over dependency on the agriculture sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

???? ??? ????? ?????? ???????? ??? ????? ?????? (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a): Yes, Madam. The Government is aware of the roadmap outlined by NITI Aayog for reforms in agriculture sector and doubling farmers income by 2022. The Roadmap presents a
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quantitative framework for doubling farmers' income which has identified seven sources of growth. These are:

(i) increase in productivity of crops.
(ii) increase in production of livestock.
(iii) improvement in efficiency of input use (cost saving).
(iv) increase in crop intensity.
(v) diversification towards high value crops.
(vi) improved price realization by farmers.
(vii) shift of cultivators to non-farm jobs.
This Policy paper was shared with the States/UTs for devising a relevant strategy so as to realize the goal of doubling farmers' income by 2022. Apart from the above, the Department has also constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee for recommending suitable strategy.

(b): Agriculture is a State subject and the State Governments are primarily responsible for the growth and development of agriculture sector in their respective States. The role of Central Government is to supplement the efforts of States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Government proposed to link a part of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) grants to the States with Agricultural Marketing Reforms and Farmer Friendly Reforms Index (AMFFRI), however due to implementation issues in AMFFRI, it was not pursued further. The Department is proactively encouraging the States to take up the reforms being advocated through other measures viz. Pre-requisite for integration to e-NAM eligibility under the Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI). The new model Marketing Act, entitled 'Agriculture Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017' would accelerate the pace and quantity of reforms. Series of dialogues are being held at various levels to hasten this process of achieving comprehensive market reforms.

(e): The Department is working out specific interventions for promoting ancillary activities like bee-keeping and also finalizing the farm sector programmes under the 'Skill India' programme to improve the employment opportunities and reduce over dependence on the agriculture sector.

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